

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-13 and 26-33 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 10 and 14-25 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1-2, 11 and 13 are amended and new claims 26-33 are added.

The Office Action objects to the disclosure because of informalities. It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments to the specification obviate the grounds for objection. Withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the title as being non-descriptive. The above amendment to the title closely corresponds to the suggested title in the Office Action.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 5, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by U.S. Patent 6,514,111 to Ebihara. The Office Action also rejects claims 2 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ebihara in view of U.S. Patent 6,097,149 to Miyaji. The Office Action also rejects claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ebihara in view of U.S. Patent 6,495,262 to Igeta. Still further, the Office Action rejects claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ebihara in view of U.S. Patent 6,261,144 to Nishiki. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites a first substrate, a second substrate, a sealing layer located between the first substrate and the second substrate, and a buffer layer formed between the first substrate and the sealing layer to compensate the thermal stress of the first substrate and the sealing layer. Independent claim 1 also recites an upper dielectric layer formed on the first substrate and a protective film formed on the upper dielectric layer.

The Office Action states that Ebihara discloses a buffer layer 4 (or 24) and a dielectric layer 25. However, Ebihara's layer 4 is a dielectric layer. See col. 4, lines 32-38. Additionally, Ebihara's layer 24 also is a dielectric layer. See col. 6, lines 41-53. Therefore, Ebihara does not teach or suggest the claimed buffer layer and upper dielectric layer, as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 32 also defines patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons. That is, independent claim 32 recites a first substrate, a second substrate, a sealing layer, a buffer layer provided on the first substrate and provided between the first substrate and the sealing layer to compensate thermal stress of the first substrate and the sealing layer. Independent claim 32 also recites a dielectric layer on the buffer layer and the buffer layer being different than the dielectric layer. Independent claim 32 further recites a protective film on the dielectric area such that the dielectric layer is between the buffer layer and the protective film and the buffer layer is between the first substrate and the dielectric layer. For at least similar reasons as set forth above, Ebihara does not teach or suggest these features. More specifically, Ebihara does not teach or suggest the claimed buffer layer and dielectric layer in which the buffer layer is different than the dielectric layer, as recited in independent claim 32. Thus, independent claim 32 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 26 also defines patentable subject matter. That is, independent claim 26 recites a first substrate, a second substrate, a sealing layer between the first substrate and the second substrate, and a buffer layer formed between the first substrate and the sealing layer such that the buffer layer is only provided in an area between the first substrate and the sealing layer.

Serial No. 10/830,068
Reply to Office Action dated May 27, 2005

Docket No. YHK-0135

Independent claim 26 also recites the buffer layer to compensate thermal stress of the first substrate and the sealing layer.

As one example, the present application discloses in Figures 10 and 12A-12C, for example, that the buffer is provided in an area only between the sealing layer 350 and the substrate 316. Ebihara does not teach or suggest these features as Ebihara does not suggest a buffer layer provided only in an area between the first substrate and the sealing layer in which the buffer layer to compensate thermal stress of the first substrate and the sealing layer. Accordingly, independent claim 26 defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason.

Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-9, 11-13 and 26-33 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, David C. Oren, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

Serial No. 10/830,068
Reply to Office Action dated May 27, 2005

Docket No. YHK-0135

concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and
please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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